

EXHIBIT 9

Larry Gillespie

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI

Oxford Division

* * * * *

JOHN RASH,

Plaintiff,

3:20-cv-224-NBB-RP

v.

LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,

Defendant.

* * * * *

VIDEOTAPED VIDEO CONFERENCE DEPOSITION OF

LARRY GILLESPIE

Location of witness:

Law offices of Clayton O'Donnell

Oxford, MS 38655

Wednesday, December 23, 2020

Reported by: DEBRA AMOS ISBELL, CCR,RDR,CRR

Job No: 188022

<p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 December 23, 2020</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 9:04 a.m.</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12 Videotaped Video Conference Deposition</p> <p>13 of LARRY GILLESPIE, with the witness</p> <p>14 located at the law offices of</p> <p>15 Clayton O'Donnell, PLLC, 1300 Access Road,</p> <p>16 Suite 200, Oxford, Mississippi, before</p> <p>17 Debra Amos Isbell, a Registered Professional</p> <p>18 Reporter, Registered Diplomate Reporter,</p> <p>19 Certified Realtime Reporter, and</p> <p>20 Mississippi Certified Court Reporter.</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p>	<p>Page 2</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 A P P E A R A N C E S</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 (ALL APPEARANCES BY VIDEO CONFERENCE)</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT</p> <p>7 Attorney for the Plaintiff</p> <p>8 425 Lexington Avenue</p> <p>9 New York, NY 10017</p> <p>10</p> <p>11 BY: ISAAC RETHY, ESQUIRE</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 C. JACKSON WILLIAMS, ESQUIRE</p> <p>15 Attorney for the Plaintiff</p> <p>16 P.O. Box 69</p> <p>17 Taylor, MS 38673</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 BY: C. JACKSON WILLIAMS, ESQUIRE</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p>
<p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 APPEARANCES (Continued)</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 CLAYTON O'DONNELL</p> <p>5 Attorneys for the Defendant</p> <p>6 1300 Access Road, Suite 200</p> <p>7 Oxford, MS 38655</p> <p>8</p> <p>9 BY: DAVID O'DONNELL, ESQUIRE</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13 Court Reporter:</p> <p>14</p> <p>15 DEBRA AMOS ISBELL, CCR,RDR,CRR</p> <p>16</p> <p>17 Videographer:</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 WILLIAM THOMAS</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p>Page 4</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. My name is</p> <p>3 William Thomas. I'm a certified legal videographer in</p> <p>4 association with TSG Reporting.</p> <p>5 Due to the severity of the COVID-19 and</p> <p>6 following the practice of social distancing, I will</p> <p>7 not be in the same room with the witness. Instead I</p> <p>8 will record this videotaped deposition remotely. The</p> <p>9 reporter, Debbie Isbell, is also not in the same room</p> <p>10 with the witness and will swear him in remotely.</p> <p>11 Do all parties stipulate to the validity of</p> <p>12 this video recording and remote swearing in and that</p> <p>13 it will be admissible in the courtroom as if it had</p> <p>14 been taken following Rule 30 of the Federal Rules of</p> <p>15 Civil Procedure and the state's rules where this case</p> <p>16 is pending?</p> <p>17 MR. RETHY: Plaintiff agrees.</p> <p>18 MR. O'DONNELL: Defendant agrees subject to</p> <p>19 our evidentiary objections.</p> <p>20 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: All right. Thank you.</p> <p>21 So this is the start of media labeled number</p> <p>22 1 of the video recorded deposition of Larry Gillespie</p> <p>23 taken in the matter of John Rash versus Lafayette</p> <p>24 County, Mississippi. This is in the United States</p> <p>25 District Court, Northern District of Mississippi,</p>
	<p>Page 3</p>
	<p>Page 5</p>

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1 Larry Gillespie
2 Oxford Division, case number 3:20-cv-224-NBB-RP.
3 We're on record at 9:04 on December 23rd,
4 2020.
5 Counsel, would you now identify yourselves
6 for this proceeding.
7 MR. RETHY: Isaac Rethy from Simpson
8 Thatcher & Bartlett for Plaintiff John Rash.
9 MR. WILLIAMS: Jack Williams for Plaintiff
10 John Rash.
11 MR. O'DONNELL: David O'Donnell on behalf of
12 Lafayette County.
13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: All right. The court
14 reporter may now swear in the witness.
15 COURT REPORTER: Mr. Gillespie, would you
16 raise your right hand, please.
17 LARRY GILLESPIE
18 was sworn and testified as follows:
19 THE WITNESS: I do.
20 EXAMINATION
21 BY MR. RETHY:
22 Q. Good morning Mr. Gillespie.
23 A. Good morning.
24 Q. Could you state your name and address for
25 the record?

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1 Larry Gillespie
2 A. That is correct, 45.
3 Q. Okay. Great.
4 For how long have you resided in Lafayette
5 County?
6 A. My entire life, 47 years.
7 Q. And are you familiar with the City of
8 Oxford?
9 A. Yes, sir.
10 Q. And are you familiar with the Oxford town
11 square?
12 A. Yes, sir.
13 Q. And the Oxford County Courthouse?
14 A. Yes, sir.
15 Q. Do you understand what this case is about?
16 A. What I know about the case is that it's
17 about first amendment rights.
18 Q. And do you have any more specific
19 understanding of what the case is about?
20 A. It was a denial of a permit.
21 Q. Are you acquainted with the plaintiff in the
22 case, John Rash?
23 A. No, sir.
24 Q. Are you familiar with the nature of the
25 event John Rash applied for a permit for?

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1 Larry Gillespie
2 A. Larry Gillespie, 516-A County Road 210,
3 Abbeville, Mississippi.
4 Q. And you are a member of the Board of
5 Supervisors of Lafayette County; is that correct?
6 A. That is correct.
7 Q. And for which district?
8 A. District 2.
9 Q. And how long have you held that position?
10 A. January of 2020.
11 Q. And have you ever held -- sorry --
12 A. This is my first term. I started January
13 2020.
14 Q. Have you ever held a public office before?
15 A. No.
16 Q. Have you ever been deposed before in a court
17 proceeding?
18 A. No, sir.
19 Q. Have you ever given testimony in court?
20 A. No, sir.
21 Q. So today I'm going to ask you some questions
22 and go through some documents. You have a binder of
23 documents with you; is that correct?
24 A. Yes, sir; that's correct.
25 Q. And does that binder have 45 tabs?

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1 Larry Gillespie
2 A. No, sir.
3 Q. Are you familiar with the Oxford Fringe
4 Festival?
5 A. I'm not particularly -- no, sir, I'm not,
6 with that festival. It does not ring a bell to me.
7 Q. If you could turn in your binder to tab 3.
8 A. Okay.
9 MR. RETHY: This will be Exhibit 1. I'm
10 adding to this the chat.
11 Sorry. Ignore what I dropped into the chat.
12 It came out of the wrong folder. The one I have added
13 now is from the right folder. Apologies.
14 (EXHIBIT 1, TAB 3, FACILITY USE POLICY,
15 3/4/2019 - DOC000006-010, WAS MARKED FOR
16 IDENTIFICATION.)
17 Q. So this is a document entitled Facility Use
18 Policy; correct?
19 A. Yes. That's what it appears to be, yes,
20 sir.
21 Q. Are you familiar with this document?
22 A. I am not familiar with this document, no,
23 sir.
24 Q. Do you have a general understanding of what
25 this document is?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. A general understanding in the fact that it

3 would be the policy to permit use of our facilities.

4 Q. What's your understanding of which

5 facilities are covered by this policy?

6 A. Would you like me to read it to understand

7 it or do you just want --

8 Q. No. If you don't have -- I'm just wondering

9 if you have a pre-existing understanding of what it

10 covers. If you don't, that's fine.

11 A. I really do not, no, sir.

12 Q. So if you could turn to tab 42.

13 A. Okay. Hold on a second. Okay.

14 Q. This will be Exhibit 2, which I'm adding to

15 the chat.

16 (EXHIBIT 2, TAB 42, COMPOSITE EXHIBIT OF

17 PHOTOGRAPHS B-1 - B-23, WAS MARKED FOR

18 IDENTIFICATION.)

19 Q. And do you see this is a series of

20 photographs; correct?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. So on the first page titled B-1 do you

23 recognize the location that's portrayed in the

24 photograph?

25 A. Yes, sir, I do.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. And this is a document that's titled

3 Order: Amend Facility Use Policy Regarding Use of

4 Courthouse Grounds; correct?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. And this states that this is -- the first

7 sentence begins by stating: "Motion was made by Larry

8 Gillespie." Correct?

9 A. Yes, sir, that is correct.

10 Q. Do you recall the reason why you made this

11 motion?

12 A. Yes, I do.

13 Q. And what is that reason?

14 A. The reason we were -- I made this motion was

15 because we were in discussion of public safety around

16 the courthouse, and we were concerned of pedestrian

17 traffic in and out of the courthouse and people being

18 impeded from the sidewalks and they were having to use

19 the streets, and also that they were impeding County

20 Courthouse business.

21 Q. And this states in part that four people or

22 less can use the County Courthouse grounds without a

23 permit; correct?

24 A. Yes, sir; that's correct.

25 Q. But five or more people would require a

Page 11

1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. What is that?

3 A. That is Lafayette County Courthouse.

4 Q. And if you'll turn to page 3, so B-3.

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. Is it fair to say that's a picture of part

7 of the grounds of the courthouse?

8 A. That would be correct.

9 Q. And if you'll turn to page 4, is it fair to

10 say that this is another picture of the grounds of the

11 courthouse showing an entry point to the grounds?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. And the courthouse grounds aren't closed

14 off; right? There's no gates that can be locked to

15 prevent people from coming in; right?

16 A. That is correct.

17 Q. If you'll turn to tab 10.

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. This will be Exhibit 3.

20 (EXHIBIT 3, TAB 10, ORDER: AMEND FACILITY

21 USE POLICY REGARDING USE OF COURTHOUSE

22 GROUNDS, 6/15/2020 - DOC000052, WAS MARKED

23 FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

24 Q. So are you familiar with this document?

25 A. Yes, sir.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 permit?

3 A. That is correct.

4 Q. So if you go back to the last exhibit we

5 looked at with the various pictures --

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. -- and turn back to the third page of that

8 exhibit.

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 Q. Do you see there's some benches on the

11 courthouse grounds?

12 A. Yes, sir; that is correct.

13 Q. So if five people were sitting on those

14 benches and talking, would this policy require them to

15 have applied for a permit beforehand?

16 A. Beforehand -- I want to understand your

17 question. Do you mean before we made this policy?

18 Q. No. Under the policy, if a group of five

19 people happened to be sitting on these benches and

20 talking but they had not applied for a permit, would

21 they be in violation of the policy?

22 A. They would be, in my opinion -- that's what

23 you're asking; correct?

24 Q. Your understanding, yes.

25 A. My understanding, yes, sir.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. Your understanding is that they would be in

3 violation of the policy?

4 A. Under certain circumstances, yes, sir.

5 Q. And what circumstances would those be?

6 A. Under the circumstances pretty much that

7 they were not there conducting County business, more

8 or less.

9 Q. Sorry. Could you repeat that?

10 A. I said that they were not there to conduct

11 any County business, more or less.

12 Q. Are there any signs on the County Courthouse

13 grounds stating that five or more people basically

14 can't be present on the County Courthouse grounds

15 without a permit?

16 A. To my knowledge, there are not. But I'm not

17 100 percent certain on that. To my knowledge, there

18 are not.

19 Q. Do members of the public ever use these

20 benches?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And to your knowledge, have they ever

23 been -- have members of the public ever been cited or

24 ticketed or arrested for violating the policy, you

25 know, based on sitting on these benches without a

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. That is correct. I do not think that

3 changed -- it is correct. I don't think it changed

4 from the previous policy.

5 Q. And do you have an understanding of why 30

6 days is required?

7 A. Yes. It's my understanding that it was so

8 that all the associated departments, especially --

9 most importantly the Sheriff's Department and law

10 enforcement, could make sure that they could handle

11 whatever situation came up.

12 Q. And do you see that below it says:

13 "The Board of Supervisors

14 and/or the Sheriff shall

15 determine whether to waive the

16 30-day period"?

17 A. Yes, sir, I do see that.

18 Q. And has the Board of Supervisors ever waived

19 the 30-day period?

20 A. The Board of Supervisors representative has

21 but the official board has not.

22 Q. And who's the representative?

23 A. Lisa Carwyle.

24 Q. Are you familiar with any specific instances

25 in which that advance notice period was waived by Lisa

Page 15

1 Larry Gillespie

2 permit?

3 A. I do not have that information. I don't

4 have any knowledge of that, no.

5 Q. So if you'll go back to the document that we

6 were just discussing, the amendment to the Facility

7 Use Policy. (Ex.3)

8 A. That would be which tab? 10?

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. Okay. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Did you make the decision that the

12 permitting requirement should be set at five people?

13 A. Did I personally make this decision?

14 Q. Correct.

15 A. This decision was a discussion among the

16 Board of Supervisors, the County attorney, and the

17 Sheriff.

18 Q. And what was the rationale for setting the

19 permitting requirement at five people?

20 A. Again, it was back to pedestrian traffic,

21 impeding pedestrian traffic and County business.

22 Q. So this also states that a permit

23 application must be submitted at least 30 days prior

24 to the date of the premise use for five or more

25 people; correct?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Carwyle?

3 A. I know that -- I don't know specifically

4 know, I can't name one. But I know that there have

5 been some.

6 Q. Do you have any sense of what factors Lisa

7 Carwyle considers when determining whether or not to

8 waive this requirement?

9 A. It's my understanding that herself and the

10 Sheriff discuss that and they make a determination.

11 Q. We're going to look at now tab 12.

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. This will be Exhibit 4. And this is two

14 separate files, so I'm putting both into the chat.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. Sorry. I apologize. I feel like maybe the

17 tabs were put together wrong, and I think that --

18 MR. O'DONNELL: Do you want to refer to them

19 by Bates number, Isaac?

20 MR. RETHY: Yeah.

21 Q. So look at your tab 11. Is that a document

22 with Bates 1354.

23 A. 001354?

24 Q. Yeah.

25 A. Yes, sir.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. And then is there a document behind that

3 document that is --

4 A. No, sir.

5 Q. You said no?

6 A. There is not, no, sir.

7 MR. O'DONNELL: It's just a single page.

8 MR. RETHY: Great.

9 Q. So if you look at 12, does that have --

10 there's an email that starts at 1111; is that right?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. And it goes on to 1112. It sort of looks

13 like it's put together backwards.

14 A. That is correct.

15 Q. And then is there a further document behind

16 that same tab?

17 A. No, sir, there is not.

18 Q. A further page? Is there a tab 12-A?

19 Sorry. The joys of remote depositions.

20 A. No, sir, there's not.

21 MR. O'DONNELL: Isaac, what we have is --

22 there's a blue sheet, and then there's a press release

23 all in tab 12.

24 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I

25 thought the blue sheet was a different tab.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 MR. O'DONNELL: And the one email. Okay. I

3 gotcha.

4 BY MR. RETHY:

5 Q. So this email from Lisa Carwyle, it goes to

6 an email address that says "supervisor." Right?

7 A. Yes, sir, that's correct.

8 Q. Do you receive emails that go to that

9 address?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Do you recall receiving this email?

12 A. I do not recall this specific email, but I'm

13 sure I received it.

14 Q. Now, if you could look at the press release.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. So are you familiar with this press release?

17 A. No, sir, I'm not familiar with it. I'm sure

18 I have seen it, but I do not remember the exact

19 wording, no, sir.

20 Q. You see in the middle -- you see the second

21 paragraph here says:

22 "The new policy states a permit

23 is not required for gatherings

24 of four or less people on the

25 grounds."

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 BY MR. RETHY:

3 Q. Yeah, that's what I'm looking for. What I'm

4 really trying to introduce here -- and it seems like

5 we messed up the binder in this respect -- is 11,

6 which is the sort of cover email relating to the press

7 release, and then the press release that's behind the

8 blue sheet, if that makes sense.

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 MR. RETHY: So I'm going to just add 11 to

11 the chat.

12 COURT REPORTER: Excuse me. So do you want

13 11 to be Exhibit 4 and 12 to be Exhibit 5 is?

14 MR. RETHY: Let's disregard 12. What I want

15 the exhibit to be is 11 and 12-A. So if that could be

16 one exhibit or if it needs to be two, that's also

17 fine. But 11 and 12-A.

18 (EXHIBIT 4, TABS 11 AND 12A - EMAIL FROM

19 LISA CARWYLE, 6/15/2020, AND FACEBOOK POST,

20 PRESS RELEASE ON REVISION OF CURRENT

21 FACILITY USE POLICY - DOC001354, WAS MARKED

22 FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

23 MR. O'DONNELL: The gist of the exhibit is

24 going to be the press release?

25 MR. RETHY: Correct.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Correct?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. And then the next paragraph states:

5 "The previous policy states all

6 gatherings are required to have

7 a permit?"

8 A. Okay. Run that by me again, please.

9 Q. Do you see in the next paragraph there's a

10 single line that says:

11 "The previous policy states all

12 gatherings are required to have

13 a permit?"

14 A. Yes, sir, I see that statement.

15 Q. Is that correct?

16 A. It's correct that it says that. I'm not 100

17 percent sure, correct, that that's what the policy

18 says. The policy is the 2019 policy we looked at

19 before?

20 Q. Correct.

21 A. Okay. I can tell you that's what it says in

22 this line item here, but I'm not 100 percent sure that

23 that's what the policy says.

24 Q. Fair enough. Is it your understanding that

25 prior to this June 15th amendment, that a single

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 person was required to get a permit to be on the</p> <p>3 courthouse grounds?</p> <p>4 A. I'm thinking. I'm not aware of that at the</p> <p>5 time.</p> <p>6 Q. This policy was put in place as an amendment</p> <p>7 to the policy that we've been discussing on June 15th,</p> <p>8 correct, this year?</p> <p>9 A. I'm assuming that is correct, June 15th.</p> <p>10 That would be the date of the court order; is that</p> <p>11 correct?</p> <p>12 Q. Yeah.</p> <p>13 A. June 15th, yes. I was just making sure the</p> <p>14 date was correct. I didn't have it at on the top of</p> <p>15 my head.</p> <p>16 Q. So was this put in place in response to</p> <p>17 protests around the courthouse or around the</p> <p>18 Confederate statue?</p> <p>19 A. This policy was put in place for increased</p> <p>20 activity around the courthouse.</p> <p>21 Q. And that increased activity was related to</p> <p>22 protests -- protest activity that increased after the</p> <p>23 killing of George Floyd; is that correct?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. So if we could now turn to tab 12, the true</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 tab 12 or whatever, the email.</p> <p>3 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>4 MR. RETHY: I'll put this in the chat.</p> <p>5 Will this be 5 or 6?</p> <p>6 COURT REPORTER: This will be five.</p> <p>7 (EXHIBIT 5, TAB 12, DISCLAIMER WITH EMAIL</p> <p>8 FROM APRIL HUGHES, 6/15/2020 -</p> <p>9 DOC001111-1112, WAS MARKED FOR</p> <p>10 IDENTIFICATION.)</p> <p>11 Q. So this is an email that's sent to a variety</p> <p>12 of people, and the people look like they're the</p> <p>13 current members of the Board of Supervisors, right,</p> <p>14 the recipients of this email plus the Sheriff?</p> <p>15 A. That looks correct, yes, sir.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you know the author of this email?</p> <p>17 A. Apparently it looks like it's April Hughes.</p> <p>18 And I do not know Ms. Hughes.</p> <p>19 Q. And it's signed -- it's slightly confusing.</p> <p>20 It's signed Lindsey Hughes. Do you know a Lindsey</p> <p>21 Hughes?</p> <p>22 A. I do not.</p> <p>23 Q. Do you remember receiving this email?</p> <p>24 A. I do not remember this email, receiving this</p> <p>25 email. I'm sure I did, but I do not remember it.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 Q. Do you have a general sense of how many</p> <p>3 emails you receive from members of the public relating</p> <p>4 to the Board of Supervisors' business or to the public</p> <p>5 business?</p> <p>6 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. But go</p> <p>7 ahead.</p> <p>8 A. I really do not. It's substantial, but I do</p> <p>9 not remember a number.</p> <p>10 Q. Would you say you get more than 10 a day?</p> <p>11 A. Okay. Let's go back and ask the question</p> <p>12 again in a way -- are you citing a specific time</p> <p>13 period or just in general?</p> <p>14 Q. So let's say during -- let's take the month</p> <p>15 of June 2020.</p> <p>16 A. I would say we received more than 10 a day.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you have a general practice in terms of</p> <p>18 reading these emails or not reading them?</p> <p>19 A. I generally read every email I get.</p> <p>20 Q. Do you generally respond or not respond?</p> <p>21 A. I generally -- during this time period I</p> <p>22 generally did not respond.</p> <p>23 Q. And under what circumstances would you</p> <p>24 respond?</p> <p>25 A. The only circumstances usually that I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 responded during this time period, if it was someone</p> <p>3 that was a family friend or knew them personally.</p> <p>4 Q. So if you look at the third paragraph of</p> <p>5 this email, we see a sentence that states:</p> <p>6 "I am disappointed in the</p> <p>7 actions of our Sheriff this</p> <p>8 past week by barricading public</p> <p>9 property so that people could</p> <p>10 not peacefully protest there.</p> <p>11 I haven't seen him do that when</p> <p>12 it was white men with</p> <p>13 Confederate flags standing</p> <p>14 there."</p> <p>15 Do you have an understanding of what the</p> <p>16 author is referring to in this statement?</p> <p>17 A. I'm trying to think of the time frame. I do</p> <p>18 remember the Sheriff barricading the statue. I'm not</p> <p>19 exactly sure when that time frame was. It was in the</p> <p>20 general time of May, June, July.</p> <p>21 Q. Did the Sheriff consult with the Board of</p> <p>22 Supervisors before barricading the statue?</p> <p>23 A. I do not recall the Sheriff consulting with</p> <p>24 me.</p> <p>25 Q. Did you personally observe the barricades?</p>

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. Yes, I did see the barricades.

3 Q. And what did the barricades consist of?

4 A. To my recollection, it was just a portable

5 barricade, plastic barricade, that was around that

6 would generally block off a street.

7 Q. Do you agree with the author's statement

8 that the Sheriff hadn't done this when it was white

9 men with Confederate flags standing there?

10 A. Rephrase your question a little bit, I

11 guess. Am I agreeing with the person saying that

12 that's the only reason he did it?

13 Q. Do you agree that the Sheriff had not

14 barricaded the statue previously in response to

15 protest activity by pro-Confederate --

16 A. I will say this: That is --

17 MR. O'DONNELL: I was going to say let him

18 finish his question.

19 THE WITNESS: Okay. I'm sorry.

20 Go ahead. I'm sorry. I should let you

21 finish your question. Go ahead.

22 Q. I had finished.

23 A. Okay. I'm sorry. I'm very sorry.

24 My statement on that would be that, in my

25 recollection, that is the only time that I have seen

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 from the County administrator or possibly our

3 attorney.

4 Q. Do you recall sending or receiving text

5 messages regarding protests around the County

6 Courthouse?

7 A. I do not recall that, no, sir.

8 Q. So if you look at this text message, you see

9 that there's sort of a post within the text message

10 from someone named Sunny Young Baker. Do you know who

11 that is?

12 A. I do not.

13 Q. This states that: "... the City police are

14 not allowed to be near the statue." Do you see that?

15 A. I do see that, yes, sir.

16 Q. Do you have an understanding of whether or

17 not that's correct?

18 A. I understand that the Lafayette County

19 Sheriff's Department has jurisdiction over County

20 property, including where the statue is.

21 Q. Do you have an understanding of whether that

22 jurisdiction is exclusive?

23 A. It's my understanding that it is exclusive.

24 Q. So is it your understanding that if the City

25 police observed a crime taking place on the County

Page 27

1 Larry Gillespie

2 the statue barricaded.

3 Q. And do you understand why the statue was

4 barricaded during that time period?

5 A. It was on the recommendation of the Sheriff.

6 Q. Do you have a sense of why the Sheriff

7 decided to do that?

8 A. I really don't, no, sir.

9 Q. If you'll look at tab 15. It will be

10 Exhibit 6, I believe.

11 A. Yes, sir. It appears to be a text message?

12 Q. Yes.

13 (EXHIBIT 6, TAB 15, TEXT MESSAGE, 6/17 -

14 DOC001007, WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

15 BY MR. RETHY:

16 Q. Are you familiar with this text message?

17 A. I do not remember it if it was sent to me,

18 but I have read it now.

19 Q. Are you on -- have you ever received texts

20 from like sort of a text message chain that includes

21 the other members of the Board of Supervisors?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And under what circumstances would you

24 receive or send those sorts of text messages?

25 A. More or less a notification of something

Page 29

1 Larry Gillespie

2 Courthouse grounds, they would have no jurisdiction to

3 intervene?

4 A. It's my understanding that they would notify

5 the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department.

6 Q. But they would have to stand back even if a

7 violent crime was underway?

8 A. I'm not sure exactly -- I mean I'm sure --

9 I'm not sure, to be honest with you. All I know is

10 that is the jurisdiction of the Lafayette County

11 Sheriff's Department.

12 I could opioniate on it.

13 Q. Okay. So what is your opinion?

14 A. My opinion is any law enforcement officer

15 anywhere in the world that stands by and lets a

16 violent crime happen is not doing their job.

17 Q. Take a look at tab 4.

18 A. Yes, sir. Permit application?

19 Q. Correct.

20 (EXHIBIT 7, TAB 4, FACILITY USE APPLICATION

21 AND PERMIT BY JESSIE HONEYCUTT, 6/3/2019,

22 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

23 Q. Do you know the applicant here, Jessie

24 Honeycutt?

25 A. I do not.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. And if you look at the line that says

3 Explanation of Use, it says: "Memorial service for

4 Anthony Hurvey." Correct?

5 A. It is what the line says, yes, sir.

6 Q. Do you have an understanding of who that is?

7 A. Anthony Harvey?

8 Q. Hurvey.

9 A. Hurvey? It's my recollection Mr. Harvey --

10 yes, I have a general knowledge of who he was.

11 Q. What is that general knowledge?

12 A. He was an African-American who would be at

13 the monument at certain times. I'm not exactly sure

14 what he was protesting for 100 percent. But I think

15 he was actually killed in a car wreck on Highway 6.

16 Q. If you'll look at tab 5.

17 A. Okay.

18 (EXHIBIT 8, TAB 5, EMAIL FROM WAYNE ANDREWS,

19 7/11/2019, FORWARDED BY LISA CARWYLE -

20 DOC000040, WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

21 Q. Are you familiar with someone named Wayne

22 Andrews?

23 A. I am.

24 Q. Who is Mr. Andrews?

25 A. Mr. Andrews is the director of the Arts --

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. If you could look at tab 9.

3 A. Okay.

4 (EXHIBIT 9, TAB 9, EMAIL FROM JANICE

5 ANTONOW, 6/11/2020 - DOC000709-710,

6 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

7 Q. Now, this is an email that you would have

8 received along with the other members of the Board of

9 Supervisors; is that right?

10 A. That is correct.

11 Q. Do you recall this email?

12 A. I do recall this certain email, yes, sir.

13 Q. Did you respond to this email?

14 A. No, sir, I did not.

15 Q. Do you know the sender of the email?

16 A. I do know the sender, yes, sir.

17 Q. And who is the sender?

18 A. Janice Antonow.

19 Q. And what's your understanding -- or I guess

20 how do you know this person and what do you know about

21 them?

22 A. I actually work for the City of Oxford, and

23 she's a Board of Aldermen.

24 Q. She's what?

25 A. She's a Board of Aldermen.

Page 31

1 Larry Gillespie

2 Yoknapatawpha Arts Council I think is what he is.

3 Q. Do you know Mr. Andrews personally?

4 A. Yes, I do. Through business.

5 Q. And you see in this email he sends to Lisa

6 Carwyle he asks if the courthouse lawn is available on

7 Saturday, August 10th, in the evening. And this is in

8 2019. Do you see that?

9 A. I do see that.

10 Q. It says:

11 "We would like to include

12 it" -- referring to the

13 courthouse lawn -- "as part of

14 the projection event which

15 protects art onto buildings in

16 the downtown area."

17 Do you see that?

18 A. I do see that, yes, sir.

19 Q. Are you familiar with that event, projection

20 event?

21 A. I am not.

22 Q. Are you familiar with any events during

23 which art is projected onto buildings in the downtown

24 area?

25 A. No, sir, I am not.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. Do you ever recall discussing this email

3 with anyone?

4 A. The only discussion about this email was:

5 Did you get an email from Ms. Antonow?

6 Q. And who was that discussion with?

7 A. I think it was Mr. Rikard and Mr. McLarty.

8 Q. Is there anything in particular about this

9 email that causes you to have a recollection of this

10 and not, for instance, the other email we looked at a

11 few minutes ago?

12 A. Yes, sir. The only reason is because of the

13 sender and that she just happens to be on the Board of

14 Aldermen and I happen to work for the City. That's

15 the reason I remember.

16 Q. So if you look at the third paragraph of

17 this email, it states:

18 "Besides being offensive to

19 many citizens, the statue in

20 its present location will

21 always serve as a magnet for

22 protests, pro and con, and will

23 continue to strain our

24 resources that could be better

25 used for more positive events."

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 So do you agree that this statue -- and</p> <p>3 that's referring to the Confederate monument -- on or</p> <p>4 around the courthouse grounds serves as a magnet for</p> <p>5 protests?</p> <p>6 A. I would agree that -- I wouldn't necessarily</p> <p>7 use those words, but it is an area of protest.</p> <p>8 Q. Do you have a view on whether the continued</p> <p>9 presence of the statue puts a strain on City or County</p> <p>10 resources?</p> <p>11 A. Yes. During the time of protests, it was</p> <p>12 putting a strain on our law enforcement.</p> <p>13 Q. If you'd look at tab 13.</p> <p>14 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>15 (EXHIBIT 10, TAB 13, EMAILS BETWEEN BUSTER</p> <p>16 CLARK AND LARRY GILLESPIE, 6/16/2020 -</p> <p>17 DOC000750, WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)</p> <p>18 Q. And so this is an email sent directly to</p> <p>19 you; correct?</p> <p>20 A. That is correct.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you recall -- and it's not just a single</p> <p>22 email. It's an email chain; right?</p> <p>23 A. Correct.</p> <p>24 Q. Do you recall this email chain?</p> <p>25 A. I mean I do after reviewing it. Yes, I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 recall it.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you know Buster Clark?</p> <p>4 A. I do.</p> <p>5 Q. And who is Mr. Clark?</p> <p>6 A. Mr. Clark is a family friend.</p> <p>7 Q. So Mr. Clark states that he opposes any</p> <p>8 movement of the monument; correct?</p> <p>9 A. Yes, sir. That's what the email says.</p> <p>10 Q. And then you respond and you say:</p> <p>11 "Thank you for voicing your</p> <p>12 opinion. I intend on</p> <p>13 representing the people that</p> <p>14 voted me into office."</p> <p>15 Correct?</p> <p>16 A. That is correct, yes, sir.</p> <p>17 Q. And what did you mean by that?</p> <p>18 A. Pretty much exactly what it says. You know,</p> <p>19 I tell him I'm representing the people who voted me</p> <p>20 into office. Which, if you look below, he explains it</p> <p>21 very well: The lifetime residents of Lafayette</p> <p>22 County.</p> <p>23 Q. Who was your predecessor on the Board of</p> <p>24 Supervisors?</p> <p>25 A. District 2 would have been Jeff Busby.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 Q. What's the more prospective of the views of</p> <p>3 the people who voted you into office with respect to</p> <p>4 the Confederate monument?</p> <p>5 A. Could you be -- rephrase the question a</p> <p>6 little bit so I make sure I understand what you're</p> <p>7 asking.</p> <p>8 Q. So you said you intend on representing the</p> <p>9 people that voted you into office in reference to the</p> <p>10 issue of whether or not to move the Confederate</p> <p>11 monument; correct?</p> <p>12 A. Yes. I have a question.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 A. I just want to clarify what your question</p> <p>15 is, if that's okay, to make sure I understand.</p> <p>16 Q. Sure.</p> <p>17 A. Are you asking did I have a preconceived</p> <p>18 notion of what I thought those constituents were</p> <p>19 thinking?</p> <p>20 Q. That's broadly fair, except I'm not trying</p> <p>21 to -- you know, "preconceived" --</p> <p>22 A. I'm just trying to understand the question</p> <p>23 to make sure I answer correctly.</p> <p>24 Q. Well, did you have a sense at the time of</p> <p>25 what your constituents -- of how best to represent</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 your constituents on this issue?</p> <p>3 A. My feelings were on the issue that the</p> <p>4 lifetime residents of Lafayette County just wanted a</p> <p>5 voice in the process. That was my consensus of what I</p> <p>6 thought the people wanted.</p> <p>7 Q. So when you say "lifetime residents," are</p> <p>8 you intending to try to distinction between lifetime</p> <p>9 residents and people who live in Lafayette County but</p> <p>10 are not lifetime residents?</p> <p>11 A. There's a distinction, yes.</p> <p>12 Q. What is that distinction?</p> <p>13 A. Just that if you were born and raised in</p> <p>14 Lafayette County, that you're more or less a lifetime</p> <p>15 resident. There are people here that have lived 20</p> <p>16 years, but I wouldn't necessarily consider them a</p> <p>17 lifetime resident.</p> <p>18 Q. Is it your view that you primarily represent</p> <p>19 the interests of lifetime residents as opposed to</p> <p>20 other residents?</p> <p>21 A. No, I wouldn't say that would be 100 percent</p> <p>22 correct.</p> <p>23 Q. Would it be partially correct?</p> <p>24 A. I would say in this instance it would be</p> <p>25 correct, letting them have a voice.</p>

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. So what did that entail, letting them have a

3 voice?

4 A. That would be a vote -- a referendum or vote

5 on the statue, whether to remove it or not.

6 Q. Are you referring to a vote of the Board of

7 Supervisors or some kind of broader like vote that all

8 the residents of the County would take part in?

9 A. Yes. A referendum which would include a

10 vote from every registered voter of Lafayette County.

11 Q. Is that a proposal that you made?

12 A. That is a proposal I made to individuals of

13 the County, yes.

14 Q. Is that something the Board of Supervisors

15 ever considered?

16 A. It was discussed.

17 Q. When was that discussion?

18 A. I do not recall a specific date.

19 Q. Was it this year?

20 A. It was in 2020, yes, sir.

21 Q. Was it in the summer of this year?

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. And what was the outcome of that discussion?

24 A. The outcome -- I mean we didn't have a

25 referendum or a vote. The discussion was more or less

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 THE WITNESS: 10 would be good.

3 MR. RETHY: Okay. Sounds good. We'll come

4 back at five past the hour.

5 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: So we're going off

6 record. The time is 9:56.

7 (A RECESS WAS TAKEN.)

8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on record at 10:07.

9 MR. RETHY: I'd like to turn to tab 16,

10 Exhibit 11; is that correct?

11 COURT REPORTER: Correct.

12 (EXHIBIT 11, TAB 16, EMAIL FROM JACK

13 WILLIAMS, 6/18/2020, FORWARDED BY LISA

14 CARWYLE, WITH ATTACHMENTS - DOC000261-266,

15 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

16 Q. So this is sort of a composite document. It

17 starts with an email, and the number on the bottom of

18 the page is 261; correct?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. And if you'll look at page 4, so 264.

21 A. Okay.

22 Q. We see that this is a permit application;

23 correct?

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. Do you know who Timmy Warren is?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 that I bring it up -- my feelings, exactly what we

3 have been talking about, that I thought the people of

4 Lafayette County needed to vote on it.

5 Q. Did others disagree on that?

6 A. I do not recall everybody's reaction.

7 Q. Do you recall why it was determined not to

8 go forward with that referendum?

9 A. I do not. My thoughts on the referendum,

10 that it needed to be a voter-initiated referendum.

11 And the people that I proposed that to did not move

12 forward with that action.

13 Q. Do you have an understanding as to why?

14 A. I do not. The ball was in their court.

15 Q. Is it your view that lifetime residents of

16 the County have different perspectives on the statue

17 than residents who are not lifetime residents?

18 A. It's possible. I can't proclaim what those

19 people were thinking.

20 THE WITNESS: Excuse me, sir?

21 MR. RETHY: Yes?

22 THE WITNESS: Would it be okay to take a

23 bathroom break?

24 MR. RETHY: Absolutely. Five minutes, 10

25 minutes? What do you prefer?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. I do.

3 Q. And who is Mr. Warren?

4 A. He's a resident of Lafayette County. He

5 lives in the Tula area. I'm pretty sure that's where

6 he still lives.

7 Q. Do you know him personally?

8 A. I do know him personally through his

9 brother.

10 Q. And what's the nature of your relationship

11 with Mr. Warren?

12 A. I'm just an acquaintance through his

13 brother.

14 Q. Do you have a sense of what Mr. Warren's

15 views are regarding the Confederate monument?

16 A. Not until -- I do now after the issue with

17 the permit and he was going to have a demonstration.

18 I did not know -- I did not know his views prior to

19 that.

20 Q. And so what's your understanding of his

21 views now?

22 A. My understanding is that he would like the

23 statue to stay where it's at.

24 Q. And so do you see that the date of this

25 permit application is June 17th?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. Yes. I see that as the date it was applied

3 for.

4 Q. And then do you see that the date of the

5 event is June 19th?

6 A. That's correct, yes, sir.

7 Q. Do you see on the bottom that the permit was

8 granted?

9 A. I do see that, yes, sir.

10 Q. And so the time between the application

11 being made and granted was substantially less than 30

12 days; is that correct?

13 A. That is correct.

14 Q. And do you have an understanding of why that

15 30-day requirement was waived in this case?

16 A. That was a decision made by the County

17 administrator, and the Sheriff apparently was good

18 with it, my assumptions.

19 Q. So if you'll look at the next page, 265.

20 A. Yes, sir.

21 Q. It's an email from Lisa Carwyle to

22 recipients, including the "supervisor" address;

23 correct?

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. Do you recall receiving this email?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 is actually Juneteenth, which is a very memorable date

3 in black history.

4 Q. And what's your understanding of the

5 significance of this event being held on Juneteenth?

6 A. Which event? This event?

7 Q. Mr. Warren's event.

8 A. Just that he was in favor of keeping the

9 statue there and it directly, I guess, would not

10 coincide with Juneteenth festivities or events.

11 Q. Can you explain what you mean by "not

12 coincide with"?

13 A. I guess what I mean by that is that his

14 views did not -- I mean they were just kind of

15 contradictory, I guess you would say. The statue

16 is --

17 (BACKGROUND SNEEZE.)

18 MR. RETHY: Sorry. She sneezed.

19 THE WITNESS: Bless you.

20 MR. RETHY: Working from home.

21 MR. O'DONNELL: That came through loud and

22 clear.

23 THE WITNESS: Yeah, it did. It did. It

24 came through very loud and clear.

25 A. I mean I hate to speculate what other people

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. Let me review it. One moment. (Document

3 review.)

4 I do recall receiving this email.

5 Q. So the last sentence of the first paragraph

6 states -- sorry, backing up.

7 So this email concerns the permit

8 application we just discussed; right?

9 A. That is correct. Actually it is a

10 notification of public records request about the

11 permit, yes, sir.

12 Q. And you see the last sentence of the first

13 paragraph states:

14 "I know there is a lot of talk

15 on social media about it and I

16 wanted to give y'all a heads

17 up."

18 Do you see that?

19 A. I do see that, yes, sir.

20 Q. Do you recall there being talk on social

21 media about this event?

22 A. I do recall talk on social media, yes, sir.

23 Q. And what's your recollection of that?

24 A. My recollection of that was that the date,

25 which you notice is June 19th of the event requested,

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 think. But Juneteenth is a very eventful thing in

3 black history, and it just didn't coincide together.

4 And I'm getting that, too, from -- we refer

5 back to the social media post or social media outlet.

6 So I'm recalling what some of those were about.

7 Q. So do you recall discussing with other

8 members of the Board of Supervisors -- sorry.

9 Do you recall any discussions with other

10 members of the Board of Supervisors regarding this

11 event?

12 A. I do not.

13 Q. What about with the Sheriff?

14 A. I did have a conversation with the Sheriff

15 about this.

16 Q. And what's your recollection of that

17 conversation?

18 A. My recollection of the conversation was

19 about the timing of the event being -- coinciding with

20 Juneteenth.

21 Q. Did the event take place as planned?

22 A. Mr. Warren's event?

23 Q. Yes.

24 A. It did not.

25 Q. I'm going to turn to tab 20.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. This will be Exhibit 12.

4 (EXHIBIT 12, TAB 20, FACILITY USE

5 APPLICATION AND PERMIT BY GEORGE O.

6 JOHNSON, 6/22/2020, WITH ATTACHED LETTER

7 FROM LISA CARWYLE, 6/24/2020 -

8 DOC000025-026, WAS MARKED FOR

9 IDENTIFICATION.)

10 Q. So this is another permit application;

11 correct?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. And the applicant is someone named George O.

14 Johnson; correct?

15 A. That is correct, yes, sir.

16 Q. Do you know Mr. Johnson?

17 A. I do not personally know Mr. Johnson, no. I

18 know of Mr. Johnson.

19 Q. And what's your -- what's the nature of your

20 knowledge of Mr. Johnson?

21 A. I have seen Mr. Johnson at the courthouse

22 grounds previously on demonstrations.

23 Q. And Mr. Johnson is in favor of the

24 Confederate monument; is that fair?

25 A. I have not talked to Mr. Johnson about that.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 relocate monument."

3 Correct?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. So with that context, could you explain why

6 you voted not to relocate the monument?

7 A. Again --

8 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. But go

9 ahead.

10 A. Again, I think it should be left to the

11 citizens of Lafayette County, registered voters, to

12 decide.

13 Q. And you say you would be against using

14 Lafayette County funds to relocate it. Can you

15 explain why?

16 A. Lafayette County only has a finite amount of

17 funds, and I think they're better used serving the

18 citizens elsewhere.

19 Q. But earlier you said that, because the

20 monument attracts protest activities, it can also put

21 a strain on County resources; is that correct?

22 A. Correct. Law enforcement.

23 Q. And so have you calculated the relative

24 costs of keeping the monument in place versus

25 relocating it?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 But judging -- my opinion from outside looking in, he

3 has been there demonstrating in favor of it; correct.

4 Q. If you'd turn to tab 28, Exhibit 13.

5 (EXHIBIT 13, TAB 28, EMAILS BETWEEN STEVE

6 HALE AND LARRY GILLESPIE, 7/6/2020 -

7 DOC000919 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

8 Q. So this is an email exchange between

9 yourself and someone named Steve Hale; is that

10 correct?

11 A. That is correct.

12 Q. And who is Mr. Hale?

13 A. Mr. Hale is a family friend.

14 Q. And in the email to Mr. Hale you state:

15 "I will not vote to relocate

16 the monument."

17 Can you explain your decision not to vote to

18 relocate the monument?

19 A. Yes, sir, I can. If you will continue on

20 through the email, it shows that I would not oppose a

21 vote by the people of Lafayette County to decide

22 whether to relocate the monument or not.

23 Q. And then it says:

24 "I would be against using

25 Lafayette County funds to

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. I have not.

3 Q. Do you have a personal view as to whether

4 the monument should be relocated.

5 A. I do not. Completely neutral.

6 Q. But it wouldn't be -- would it be possible

7 to relocate the monument without using County funds?

8 A. Would it be possible?

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. I can speculate on that, but I mean I can't

11 tell you 100 percent. But I can speculate that it

12 would be possible.

13 Q. And how would the monument -- how could the

14 monument be relocated without using County funds?

15 A. I would speculate donations.

16 Q. If there was a vote to relocate the

17 monument, would you oppose allocating County funds to

18 implement the results of that vote?

19 A. Could you define "vote"?

20 Q. A vote by the people of Lafayette County, a

21 referendum of the sort you've been describing.

22 A. Let me clarify. A referendum that was

23 initiated by the County voters of Lafayette County, if

24 that vote was taken and it was passed, we would be

25 obligated to move the statue by law, from what I

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 understand. And I would look for other means of

3 funding it besides County funds.

4 Q. And why is that the case?

5 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. Go

6 ahead and answer.

7 A. Again, the County only has a finite amount

8 of money. And I think that we just need to spend it

9 in other areas.

10 Q. So if a referendum resulted in a vote to

11 relocate the statue, is it your position that should

12 not be implemented unless you could raise funds from

13 other means?

14 A. I would look for other funds first. Again,

15 it's my understanding we'd be bound by law -- bound by

16 the referendum to move it. But I would look for other

17 funds before using County funds.

18 Q. Are there other areas of County business

19 where you look for other funds rather than County

20 funds to implement County policy?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And what are those?

23 A. Public safety, fire service.

24 Q. Take a look at tab 31.

25 A. Yes, sir.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 approve permits that would

3 involve security and safety

4 needs."

5 Do you see that?

6 A. I do, yes, sir.

7 Q. Do you recall that discussion?

8 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. Go

9 ahead.

10 A. Do I recall the discussion of --

11 Q. The discussion of the board meeting that's

12 being referenced here.

13 A. We did discuss policy. I'm not sure -- if I

14 remember correctly, Ms. Carwyle was not at that

15 meeting. So that would explain why she's asking this

16 question.

17 Q. So do you recall discussing the policy with

18 the Sheriff at a board meeting around this time?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Do you recall discussing changing the policy

21 to reflect -- to require a longer amount of time to

22 approve certain permits?

23 A. I recall discussing with the Sheriff what

24 time he needed --

25 MR. O'DONNELL: I have to go off camera. We

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 (EXHIBIT 14, TAB 31, EMAILS BETWEEN JOEY

3 EAST AND LISA CARWYLE, 7/15/2020, WITH

4 ATTACHED FACILITY USE APPLICATION AND

5 PERMIT BY STEPHANIE M. SELF - DOC000323,

6 327, 319, WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

7 Q. So this is an email between -- I'm sorry.

8 This document, do you see the number at the bottom is

9 323 on the first page?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. So this is an email that you're not on, so I

12 don't expect you to recall this email. But there's a

13 discussion between Lisa Carwyle and Sheriff East;

14 correct?

15 A. Yes, sir, it appears that way.

16 Q. And in Ms. Carwyle's email she states:

17 "Did y'all discuss at the board

18 meeting that Monday to change

19 the requirement on the number

20 of days to issue a permit?"

21 Do you see that?

22 A. I do, yes, sir, I see that.

23 Q. And then Sheriff East responds:

24 "We did discuss for a longer

25 about -- amount -- of time to

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 can keep going. I'm going to step out of the room for

3 just a second.

4 THE WITNESS: Okay.

5 A. I remember discussing with the Sheriff how

6 long it would take him to do his due diligence on

7 permits.

8 Q. And do you recall his response on that

9 topic?

10 A. I really do not, no.

11 Q. Look at tab 32 now.

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. Sorry. Not quite yet -- or actually, yeah,

14 32. Sorry.

15 A. Okay.

16 (EXHIBIT 15, TAB 32, ORDER: APPROVE

17 REVISION OF FACILITIES USE POLICY TO

18 INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT OF APPLICATION TO BE

19 MADE 14 DAYS PRIOR TO DATE OF PROPOSED USE

20 AND REQUIRING CLOSURE OF COURTHOUSE GROUNDS

21 30 MINUTES BEFORE DUSK, 7/20/2020 -

22 DOC000001, WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

23 THE WITNESS: David is stepping back in the

24 room. I just want to update him where we're at.

25 We're on tab 32, David.

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 MR. O'DONNELL: Appreciate it, Larry.</p> <p>3 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.</p> <p>4 Q. So this is the document -- the number on the</p> <p>5 bottom is 001; correct?</p> <p>6 A. That is correct.</p> <p>7 Q. Are you familiar with this document?</p> <p>8 A. Let me review it very quickly. (Document</p> <p>9 review.)</p> <p>10 I am familiar with this document.</p> <p>11 Q. This is an order reflecting a revision of</p> <p>12 the Facilities Use Policy; correct?</p> <p>13 A. That is correct.</p> <p>14 Q. And the substance of the revision is to</p> <p>15 change the time for the application to 14 days and</p> <p>16 require closure of courthouse grounds, including the</p> <p>17 Confederate statue area, 30 minutes before dusk;</p> <p>18 correct?</p> <p>19 A. That is correct.</p> <p>20 Q. What's your understanding of -- sorry.</p> <p>21 And you voted for this; correct?</p> <p>22 A. That is correct.</p> <p>23 Q. And what's your understanding of why this</p> <p>24 policy change was enacted?</p> <p>25 A. This policy change was enacted primarily for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 public safety.</p> <p>3 Q. And can you specify what public safety</p> <p>4 concerns?</p> <p>5 A. The discussion was that the grounds needed</p> <p>6 to be closed primarily at the closing of business</p> <p>7 hours because the Lafayette County Sheriff's</p> <p>8 Department -- at this time this is when they had the</p> <p>9 least amount of deputies and they were stretched thin</p> <p>10 at night and were not able to keep someone there to</p> <p>11 monitor the courthouse grounds.</p> <p>12 Q. Was this a policy change implemented in</p> <p>13 response to increased protest activity around the</p> <p>14 Confederate statue?</p> <p>15 A. No. Actually this policy had been pushed by</p> <p>16 the Sheriff since he took office.</p> <p>17 Q. So this says -- this policy requires closure</p> <p>18 of the courthouse grounds. What's your understanding</p> <p>19 of what "closure of the courthouse grounds" means?</p> <p>20 A. That there would be no public access.</p> <p>21 Q. And we looked earlier at some pictures of</p> <p>22 the courthouse grounds; right?</p> <p>23 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>24 Q. And there's not actual gates, are there,</p> <p>25 blockades that restrict access; is that correct?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 A. At this time there are not, no, sir.</p> <p>3 Q. And there's also no signs posted that inform</p> <p>4 members of the public that they're prohibited from</p> <p>5 accessing the courthouse grounds at certain points in</p> <p>6 time?</p> <p>7 A. At this time, no, sir. To my knowledge,</p> <p>8 there are none at this time.</p> <p>9 Q. What's your understanding of what "dusk"</p> <p>10 means?</p> <p>11 A. Dusk is actually when the sun starts going</p> <p>12 below the horizon. I think that is correct.</p> <p>13 Q. And that changes depending on the time of</p> <p>14 year; correct?</p> <p>15 A. That is correct.</p> <p>16 Q. What's your understanding of what dusk is</p> <p>17 today?</p> <p>18 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form.</p> <p>19 A. Can you clarify exactly what you're asking?</p> <p>20 Are you asking me what time dusk is today?</p> <p>21 Q. That's correct. What time is dusk today in</p> <p>22 Oxford, Mississippi?</p> <p>23 A. I would guess 4:45 to 5. When you start</p> <p>24 losing light is what I would guess, but I'm not 100</p> <p>25 percent on that.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 Q. And so 30 minutes before dusk would mean</p> <p>3 4:15 to 4:30?</p> <p>4 A. Yes. If my assumptions are correct, that</p> <p>5 would be correct.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you believe that members of the public</p> <p>7 understand that they're prohibited from being on the</p> <p>8 courthouse grounds today as of 4:15 or 4:30 in the</p> <p>9 afternoon?</p> <p>10 A. I'm not sure about that. It just depends on</p> <p>11 how aware they are of County business, I guess.</p> <p>12 Because at this point in time I'm not sure that there</p> <p>13 are signs up.</p> <p>14 Q. Are you aware of this policy ever having</p> <p>15 been enforced?</p> <p>16 A. The policy of asking people to leave at</p> <p>17 dusk? Is that what you're asking?</p> <p>18 Q. Correct. 30 minutes before dusk.</p> <p>19 A. I'm not aware.</p> <p>20 Q. Would it surprise you to learn that</p> <p>21 occasionally there are people on the courthouse</p> <p>22 grounds at times of day that are prohibited under this</p> <p>23 policy?</p> <p>24 A. I would not be surprised.</p> <p>25 Q. And so do you know why 30 minutes before</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 dusk was the point in time that was chosen?</p> <p>3 A. To my recollection, it was because there was</p> <p>4 still light.</p> <p>5 Q. And what's your understanding of courthouse</p> <p>6 business hours?</p> <p>7 A. My understanding is courthouse business</p> <p>8 hours end at 5 on a regular basis.</p> <p>9 Q. So this policy, during this time of year,</p> <p>10 closes the courthouse grounds while the courthouse is</p> <p>11 still open?</p> <p>12 A. I'm assuming that would be correct, what</p> <p>13 you're saying. But -- go ahead.</p> <p>14 Q. But it would never be actually enforced in</p> <p>15 that way?</p> <p>16 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. You can</p> <p>17 answer.</p> <p>18 A. I would not think anybody doing courthouse</p> <p>19 business would be denied access.</p> <p>20 Q. So the courthouse grounds are in the center</p> <p>21 of the Oxford town square; correct?</p> <p>22 A. That is correct.</p> <p>23 Q. And is it fair to say that on certain</p> <p>24 nights, weekends, say when there's football games or</p> <p>25 other events, that there is a lot of night-life</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 activity in the town square?</p> <p>3 A. That would be fair to say.</p> <p>4 Q. What's your -- so who's responsible for</p> <p>5 public safety with respect to night life on the town</p> <p>6 square?</p> <p>7 A. On public and City-owned property, Oxford</p> <p>8 Police Department. On Lafayette County property,</p> <p>9 Lafayette County Sheriff's Department.</p> <p>10 Q. If you would turn to tab 30.</p> <p>11 A. Okay.</p> <p>12 (EXHIBIT 16, TAB 30, FACILITY USE</p> <p>13 APPLICATION AND PERMIT BY J.F. RASH,</p> <p>14 7/14/2020 - DOC000030, WAS MARKED FOR</p> <p>15 IDENTIFICATION.)</p> <p>16 Q. This is a document that the number at the</p> <p>17 bottom ends in 30; correct?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, sir; that's correct.</p> <p>19 Q. And are you familiar with this permit</p> <p>20 application?</p> <p>21 A. I am not necessarily familiar with it. I</p> <p>22 know it was turned in.</p> <p>23 Q. And sir, could you explain what you mean by</p> <p>24 that, you know it was turned in?</p> <p>25 A. I mean like if you would ask me what</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 Mr. Rash's address is, I would not be familiar with</p> <p>3 that. But I am familiar that it was turned in and</p> <p>4 requested and denied.</p> <p>5 Q. So did you discuss this particular permit</p> <p>6 application with anyone?</p> <p>7 A. I do not recall discussing this, no.</p> <p>8 Q. Was this permit application ever discussed</p> <p>9 at a Board of Supervisors meeting?</p> <p>10 A. Really the only time I remember this being</p> <p>11 discussed is when we were in the litigation part.</p> <p>12 Q. Do you have an understanding of why the</p> <p>13 permit -- this permit was denied?</p> <p>14 A. I really do not know. It was on the</p> <p>15 recommendation of the Sheriff.</p> <p>16 Q. If you would turn to tab 34.</p> <p>17 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>18 (EXHIBIT 17, TABS 34 AND 34A, EMAIL FROM</p> <p>19 JOEY EAST, 9/3/2020, WITH RESPONSES BY</p> <p>20 BRENT LARSON AND DAVID RIKARD -</p> <p>21 DOC000046-047, AND LETTERS FROM SHERIFF</p> <p>22 JOEY EAST WITH ATTACHMENTS - DOC000366-370,</p> <p>23 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)</p> <p>24 Q. So this is a document that ends in 46,</p> <p>25 correct, the first page?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 A. Yes, sir, yes, sir, that's correct.</p> <p>3 Q. And do you recall -- this is an email</p> <p>4 exchange among the Board of Supervisors members,</p> <p>5 including yourself and the Sheriff and a few others;</p> <p>6 is that fair?</p> <p>7 A. Yes. I see in the -- it was sent to me and</p> <p>8 a few others. I would have to review it to make sure</p> <p>9 I understand exactly what it was about.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. If you'd take a second to review</p> <p>11 that.</p> <p>12 A. Okay. (Document review.)</p> <p>13 Yes, sir, I remember this.</p> <p>14 Q. So do you recall the event that's being</p> <p>15 discussed in this email chain?</p> <p>16 A. Yes. If I recall correctly, it was the</p> <p>17 march by the Ole Miss football players.</p> <p>18 Q. And in the bottom email the Sheriff states</p> <p>19 that:</p> <p>20 "I would imagine that each of</p> <p>21 you have had your share of</p> <p>22 phone calls concerning those</p> <p>23 events and have your own</p> <p>24 concerns about what took place</p> <p>25 on the courthouse grounds."</p>

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 So did you have any phone calls about that

3 march?

4 A. If I recall, I had, I would say, three to

5 five maybe, just someone asking what was going on.

6 Q. And were those just phone calls with

7 constituents or acquaintances?

8 A. Yes, just acquaintances and constituents.

9 To be honest with you, I can't remember exactly who

10 they were. But I think I do remember having a few

11 phone calls about it.

12 Q. And did you have any concerns about the

13 march or what took place on the courthouse grounds on

14 that date?

15 A. Yes, sir, I did.

16 Q. And could you explain those concerns?

17 A. My concerns were public safety. That's

18 exactly why we have a permitting process. It was an

19 unauthorized march. They had pedestrian and vehicular

20 traffic blocked. I think it was very overwhelming for

21 the Oxford Police Department and the Lafayette County

22 Sheriff's Department trying to get it under control.

23 Q. The top email is from Mr. Rikard.

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. It states:

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Mississippi, area, been violent?

3 A. Not to my knowledge.

4 Q. And has there been any property destruction

5 or looting associated with those protests in Oxford,

6 Mississippi?

7 A. Not to my knowledge.

8 Q. If you'll look at the next page, this is a

9 letter from the mayor of Oxford to the Sheriff.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. Are you acquainted with the mayor of Oxford?

12 A. I do know Ms. Tannehill, yes.

13 Q. Did you say earlier that you currently work

14 for the City?

15 A. I do, that is correct.

16 Q. What's your position?

17 A. I'm a firefighter.

18 Q. Do you see this letter -- have you ever seen

19 this letter before?

20 A. I do not recall ever seeing this letter, no,

21 sir.

22 Q. And you see that in the first paragraph of

23 this letter Mayor Tannehill tells Sheriff East: "Your

24 information is simply not correct"?

25 A. I do see that, yes, sir.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 "I know this is taking a toll

3 on all of us."

4 Do you have an understanding of what he

5 meant in saying that?

6 A. Yes. It just had been a very stressful

7 summer.

8 Q. Could you explain why?

9 A. Just all the overwhelming activity around --

10 concerning the statue and all the things happening.

11 Q. So I think that this should be a document

12 with a slip sheet, a blue sheet, and then there should

13 be something after it; is that correct?

14 A. I do see a blue sheet, and I'm looking

15 behind it. Yes, sir. There seems to be several pages

16 behind it.

17 Q. And the first one of those is on the

18 Sheriff's letterhead. It's a document that's stamped

19 ending 364?

20 A. That is correct.

21 Q. Just take a minute to review this letter.

22 A. Okay. (Document review.)

23 Okay. I have reviewed the first document.

24 Q. So have any of the protests, in the wake of

25 the killing of George Floyd in the Oxford,

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. Do you understand what she's referring to

3 there?

4 A. I do not, no, sir.

5 Q. Are you aware of there being any

6 disagreements or differences of opinion between the

7 City and County on how to handle protests?

8 A. I'm sure -- I mean I can't specify, but I'm

9 sure there's agreements and disagreements in all

10 matters of business with the City and County.

11 Q. Do you have any understanding of any

12 specific disagreements related to how they handle

13 protests between the City and the County?

14 A. I do not recall any, no, sir, except

15 maybe -- probably this. But I'm not sure what she's

16 referring to as incorrect information.

17 Q. Are you aware of there being any

18 disagreements or differences of opinion among City and

19 County lawmakers regarding the Confederate statue or

20 relocation of the Confederate statue?

21 A. I have not spoken directly with them about

22 it. It seems like some of them probably -- I think

23 wanted it moved. I'm not sure. I'm speculating

24 because I have not spoken with them directly. And we

25 did not move it. So I would say that would be a

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 disagreement.

3 Q. When you say "some of them," could you

4 identify any specific people you're referring to?

5 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. Go

6 ahead.

7 A. It's my understanding they had a vote on

8 some issues with it, and they weren't all in

9 agreement. That's the reason I said "some."

10 Q. Do you recall there being any disagreements

11 between the City and the County regarding jurisdiction

12 over the Confederate statue?

13 A. I do.

14 Q. And what's your understanding of that issue?

15 A. Of the disagreement or the outcome?

16 Q. The disagreement first.

17 A. The City questioned whether the County

18 actually owned the property.

19 Q. And what was the outcome?

20 A. The outcome was that there were some

21 investigations done, and there was no concrete

22 evidence to say that the County did not own the

23 property.

24 Q. Could you take a look at the next letter in

25 this packet?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. And in the second to last paragraph on the

3 second page of this letter, the Sheriff states:

4 "The Lafayette County Sheriff's

5 Department is requesting that

6 the cost for all dedicated

7 personnel hours for both

8 on-duty and off-duty (overtime)

9 personnel be paid by the

10 University of Mississippi."

11 Do you see that?

12 A. I do see that, yes, sir.

13 Q. Are you familiar with -- or are you aware of

14 any other occasions in which the Sheriff has asked for

15 payment for law enforcement services from members of

16 the public?

17 A. I personally am not aware.

18 Q. Do you have an understanding of when -- of

19 the reasons why the Sheriff might ask for payment?

20 A. I would be speculating. But I mean, again,

21 he has a finite budget, so I'm assuming he's just

22 trying to cover his costs.

23 Q. Do you know whether the Sheriff requests

24 that a member of the public pay for law enforcement

25 services, whether the member of the public to whom the

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. Yes. Give me a minute to review it, please.

3 Q. Sure.

4 A. (Document review.)

5 (HORN BLOWING.)

6 MR. O'DONNELL: Okay. Somebody needs to

7 close their window.

8 MR. RETHY: My windows are closed. It's

9 part of living in New York.

10 A. Okay. I have reviewed the document.

11 Q. Before reviewing it just now, have you ever

12 seen this document?

13 A. Yes. If I recall, I think the Sheriff

14 emailed this to me before.

15 Q. And did you review or comment on the

16 document?

17 A. I reviewed it, but I do not recall

18 commenting on it.

19 Q. And do you understand why the Sheriff sent

20 it to you?

21 A. Yes. He was wanting to inform us of what he

22 was doing with neighboring governments.

23 Q. This is a letter to some University

24 officials; correct?

25 A. That is correct.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 request is directed is legally obligated to pay?

3 A. No, sir, I do not.

4 Q. Turn to tab 26.

5 A. Okay.

6 (EXHIBIT 18, TAB 26, EMAILS BETWEEN

7 ANA LAUREN MARTINEZ AND LARRY GILLESPIE,

8 7/2/2020 - DOC000944, WAS MARKED

9 FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

10 Q. Do you see that this is a single-page

11 document with the Bates number that ends in 944; is

12 that correct?

13 A. Yes, sir, that is correct.

14 Q. And this is an email chain between yourself

15 and someone named Ana Martinez; is that correct?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. So do you recall this email exchange?

18 A. Vaguely.

19 Q. And you write:

20 "Thank you for how you reported

21 our responses on the statue."

22 Do you have any recollection of what you

23 were referring to there?

24 A. I really do not. Just judging by the date,

25 possibly the form we had. I'm not sure. I do not

Page 70

1 Larry Gillespie

2 really.

3 Q. If you could turn to tab 40.

4 A. Okay.

5 (EXHIBIT 19, TAB 40, FACEBOOK POSTING,

6 "A REBEL NIGHT TO REMEMBER," WAS MARKED

7 FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

8 Q. So this is a picture, and it looks like it's

9 taken from a Facebook page; is that fair?

10 A. It is a picture, correct. I'm not sure

11 where it came from.

12 Q. Do you have a sense of what the picture is

13 depicting?

14 A. Lafayette County Courthouse.

15 Q. And just to make sure we're looking at the

16 same thing, it's got a caption that says "Forever Ole

17 Miss, A Rebel Night to Remember"?

18 A. No, that is not the picture I'm looking at.

19 I'm sorry. I'm on the wrong tab. I'm

20 sorry. I'm sorry.

21 Okay. Now I'm on the same page with you.

22 I'm sorry.

23 Yes. Now I see that it does look it's some

24 sort of social media page, yes.

25 Q. And do you have a sense of what the

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. And does the Sheriff's Department have

3 discretion how it enforces the policy?

4 A. As in who -- try to get a little more

5 specific. Whether he interprets it different

6 or whether -- could you be a little more specific?

7 Q. Does the Sheriff have the authority to

8 decide to enforce or not to enforce the policy in

9 different instances?

10 A. A simple answer, yes.

11 Q. Are you aware of instances where the Sheriff

12 has determined not to enforce the policy?

13 A. I am not aware.

14 Q. And are you aware of any factors or criteria

15 the Sheriff would consider in determining whether or

16 not to enforce the policy or is it just his

17 case-by-case judgment?

18 A. Okay. Let's hold up just a second because I

19 think I'm getting a little confused about what you

20 have asked. Because when I interpret what you're

21 saying, I'm thinking, okay, does the Sheriff have --

22 let's just say -- I'm giving a situation -- he has a

23 crowd there. Does he have the discretion to say I'm

24 going to arrest these people for breaking the policy

25 or not? Is that what you are asking?

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 photograph is depicting?

3 A. It looks like they have a goalpost.

4 Q. Do you remember -- and they have the

5 goalpost right around the statue; is that correct?

6 A. That is correct.

7 Q. And do you remember this having taken place?

8 A. I do remember when a goalpost was brought

9 through the square of Oxford. I'm not sure if this is

10 the exact one.

11 Q. So this is after dark; correct? Or it

12 appears to be after dark?

13 A. That is correct.

14 Q. So would the gathering that's being depicted

15 here be a violation of the current policies?

16 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. Lack of

17 foundation.

18 A. The current policy as it states now?

19 Q. Correct.

20 A. Yes, it looks to be in violation.

21 Q. Who enforces the current policy?

22 A. Your question being on the ground who

23 enforces it?

24 Q. Correct.

25 A. Lafayette County Sheriff's Department.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 Q. That's one aspect, yes.

3 A. In that aspect, yes, he does have

4 discretion.

5 Q. And beyond arresting, he has the discretion

6 to let a gathering continue versus ordering a

7 gathering to disburse; would that also be correct?

8 A. No. I would say the Sheriff would abide by

9 the policy regardless of who is there. He has the

10 discretion on how to enforce the policy on the

11 outcome, more or less.

12 Q. And explain what you mean by "the outcome."

13 A. That would be what the situation would turn

14 to, whether he arrests somebody or doesn't arrest them

15 and they just move along.

16 Q. If you would, turn back to tab 10, which is

17 something we've previously looked at. (Ex.3)

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. So this is the June 15th, 2020 revision to

20 the Facility Use Policy; correct?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. And I believe earlier you testified that one

23 reason for the five-person -- the rule that five or

24 more people require a permit was to minimize impacts

25 on courthouse business; is that fair? I'm sure I

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 didn't characterize it necessarily perfectly.</p> <p>3 A. Yes, sir. Not to impede pedestrian traffic</p> <p>4 or impede courthouse business.</p> <p>5 Q. So would that rationale apply over the</p> <p>6 weekend?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Even though the courthouse is closed?</p> <p>9 A. Yes. There's still pedestrian traffic on</p> <p>10 the sidewalks.</p> <p>11 Q. On the sidewalks on the County Courthouse</p> <p>12 grounds?</p> <p>13 A. Surrounding the County Courthouse grounds.</p> <p>14 Q. But there is no -- but during the weekends</p> <p>15 there's no courthouse business to be impeded; correct?</p> <p>16 A. On a normal basis, I would say no.</p> <p>17 Q. And a gathering within the -- a gathering on</p> <p>18 the County Courthouse grounds wouldn't impede</p> <p>19 pedestrian traffic; is that fair?</p> <p>20 A. It depends on where they're gathering.</p> <p>21 Q. Could you explain that in any more detail,</p> <p>22 like which areas would lead to different outcomes in</p> <p>23 that regard?</p> <p>24 A. Yes. The actual statue sits outside what</p> <p>25 you would call the fencing of the courthouse grounds,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 and there is a public sidewalk that interjects with</p> <p>3 that that people use outside the courthouse grounds.</p> <p>4 Q. So let's look back at tab 42, which is the</p> <p>5 series of pictures of the courthouse grounds. (Ex.2)</p> <p>6 A. Yes, sir.</p> <p>7 Q. So looking at the first one, can you</p> <p>8 identify the sidewalk you're referring to in this</p> <p>9 first picture? You may not be able to see it, but let</p> <p>10 me know if you can.</p> <p>11 A. Yes, sir. There should be a sidewalk on the</p> <p>12 corner there where the blue sign is coming around the</p> <p>13 outside of the fence.</p> <p>14 Q. So if you look at the second page, is this</p> <p>15 the sidewalk you're referring to? (Indicating.)</p> <p>16 A. Yes, it looks to be so.</p> <p>17 Q. Does this particular sidewalk just sort of</p> <p>18 go around the courthouse area? Or does it lead</p> <p>19 anywhere else?</p> <p>20 A. I think it goes -- it goes around the</p> <p>21 courthouse area and leads to crosswalks all around the</p> <p>22 courthouse that go to other businesses inside the</p> <p>23 City.</p> <p>24 Q. And so your testimony is that the reason for</p> <p>25 requiring a permit for a gathering of five or more</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 people on the weekend when there's no courthouse</p> <p>3 business going on is to ensure that access to this</p> <p>4 sidewalk isn't impeded?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And the policy isn't limited to just the</p> <p>7 area around the Confederate statue; it also includes,</p> <p>8 say, if you turn to the third page, a gathering of</p> <p>9 people, five people, sitting on the benches that are</p> <p>10 pictured?</p> <p>11 A. Yes. That would be part of the courthouse</p> <p>12 grounds.</p> <p>13 Q. And so you need to apply for a permit to sit</p> <p>14 on those -- to have five people sit on those benches</p> <p>15 during the weekend in order to make sure that the</p> <p>16 sidewalk around the courthouse is clear?</p> <p>17 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form. Go</p> <p>18 ahead.</p> <p>19 A. It's my understanding for an organized</p> <p>20 protest, you would.</p> <p>21 Q. But not for just a social gathering of five</p> <p>22 people?</p> <p>23 MR. O'DONNELL: Object to the form of that.</p> <p>24 A. As to my knowledge, I would say that is not</p> <p>25 how it's applied.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 Q. Could you explain that?</p> <p>3 A. It would not be considered an organized</p> <p>4 demonstration.</p> <p>5 Q. So the five-person rule is, in practice,</p> <p>6 enforced with respect to organized demonstrations, not</p> <p>7 other gatherings?</p> <p>8 A. Define "gatherings."</p> <p>9 Q. Like the social gathering of five people</p> <p>10 sitting on the benches that I used as an example just</p> <p>11 then.</p> <p>12 A. Okay. Ask me the question again so I make</p> <p>13 sure I remember exactly what you asked.</p> <p>14 Q. So in practice, the five-person rule applies</p> <p>15 to -- or is it enforced with respect to organized</p> <p>16 demonstrations and not to, say, like the five-person</p> <p>17 social gathering that I gave in this example?</p> <p>18 A. In my opinion, it would be enforced on</p> <p>19 organized demonstrations.</p> <p>20 Q. And how do you determine whether something</p> <p>21 is an organized demonstration or not?</p> <p>22 A. I'm not sure how to answer that question. I</p> <p>23 don't know.</p> <p>24 Q. So who would make that determination? Would</p> <p>25 it be the Sheriff?</p>

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 A. Yes.

3 MR. RETHY: Let's take a 10-minute break. I

4 may be close to done here.

5 MR. O'DONNELL: All right. 10 minutes.

6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're going off record.

7 The time is 11:16.

8 (A RECESS WAS TAKEN.)

9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on record at 11:30.

10 MR. RETHY: So with all that, I have no

11 further questions. Thank you for your time this

12 morning.

13 THE WITNESS: I appreciate it. Thank you.

14 MR. O'DONNELL: And I have no questions

15 either, Isaac.

16 MR. RETHY: Okay. Great. Have a happy

17 holidays, everyone.

18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: So we are going off the

19 record. The time is 11:31.

20 COURT REPORTER: David, would you like a

21 copy of this deposition?

22 MR. O'DONNELL: I would, yes.

23 COURT REPORTER: Thank you. Read and sign?

24 MR. O'DONNELL: We'll read and sign, yes.

25 COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 CERTIFICATE OF CHANGE

3 RASH v. LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MS 3:20-cv-224-NBB-RP

4 I, LARRY GILLESPIE, the witness, have read

5 the testimony contained herein and hereby request the

6 following changes be made:

7 PAGE	LINE	CHANGE	TO
8	_____		
9	_____		
10	_____		
11	_____		
12	_____		
13	_____		
14	_____		
15	_____		
16	_____		
17	_____		
18	_____		
19	_____		
20	Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 20____.		
21	My Commission Expires:		
22	_____		
23	LARRY GILLESPIE		
24	_____		
25	NOTARY PUBLIC		

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 MR. RETHY: Thanks.

3 MR. O'DONNELL: Thank y'all. Have a good

4 holiday.

5 (A DISCUSSION WAS HELD OFF THE RECORD.)

6 (THE DEPOSITION OF LARRY GILLESPIE

7 WAS CONCLUDED AT 11:31 A.M.)

8

9

10 _____

11:31:47

11 LARRY GILLESPIE

12 Subscribed and sworn to before me

13 this _____ day of _____ 2020.

14 _____

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

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1 Larry Gillespie

2 C E R T I F I C A T E

3

4 I do hereby certify that the foregoing

5 proceedings were taken down by me and transcribed

6 using computer-aided transcription and that the

7 foregoing is a true and correct transcript of said

8 proceedings.

9

10 I further certify that I am neither of

11 counsel nor of kin to any of the parties, nor am I in

12 anyway interested in the result of said cause.

13

14 I further certify that I have earned the

15 certifications awarded by the National Court Reporters

16 Association of RPR,RMR,RDR,CRR,CRC,RSA and am duly

17 licensed by the Alabama, Illinois, Louisiana, and

18 Mississippi Boards of Court Reporting as a Certified

19 Court Reporter.

20

21 _____

22 DEBRA AMOS ISBELL, CCR,RDR,CRR

23 ALABAMA - ACCR #21 (expires 9/30/21)

24 ILLINOIS - CSR #084.004798 (expires 5/31/21)

25 LOUISIANA - CCR #2014003 (expires 12/31/21)

MISSISSIPPI - CSR #1809 (expires 4/10/21)

NCRA (expires 12/31/2021)

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 Exhibit 14 Tab 31, emails between Joey East and 51</p> <p>3 Lisa Carwyle, 7/15/2020, with</p> <p>4 attached Facility Use Application and</p> <p>5 Permit by Stephanie M. Self</p> <p>6 - DOC000323, 327, 319</p> <p>7 Exhibit 15 Tab 32, Order: Approve Revision of 53</p> <p>8 Facilities Use Policy to Include a</p> <p>9 Requirement of Application to be Made</p> <p>10 14 Days Prior to Date of Proposed Use</p> <p>11 and Requiring Closure of Courthouse</p> <p>12 Grounds 30 Minutes Before Dusk,</p> <p>13 7/20/2020 - DOC000001</p> <p>14 Exhibit 16 Tab 30, Facility Use Application and 59</p> <p>15 Permit by J.F. Rash, 7/14/2020</p> <p>16 - DOC000030</p> <p>17 Exhibit 17 Tabs 34 and 34a, email from Joey 60</p> <p>18 East, 9/3/2020, with responses by</p> <p>19 Brent Larson and David Rikard</p> <p>20 - DOC000046-047, and letters from</p> <p>21 Sheriff Joey East with attachments</p> <p>22 - DOC000366-370</p> <p>23 Exhibit 18 Tab 26, emails between Ana Lauren 69</p> <p>24 Martinez and Larry Gillespie, 7/2/2020</p> <p>25 - DOC000944</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 85</p> <p>1 Larry Gillespie</p> <p>2 Exhibit 19 Tab 40, Facebook Posting, "A Rebel 70</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 Night to Remember"</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p>

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